TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

August 8, 2007

TO:

Internal File

THRU:

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor Karl R. Houskeeper. Lead

FROM:

Karl R, Houskeeper, Environmental Scientist III/Inspector

RE:

Slurry Pond Abandonment, Hiawatha Coal Company, Hiawatha Mine,

C/007/0011, Task #2831

SUMMARY:

The Division received an application for a permit amendment to abandon Slurry Cell #1 on July 20, 2007. The request came as a result of Citation #10006, which required: (1) Repair/maintain the embankment for Slurry Cell #1 in accordance with the approved designs in the mining and reclamation plan, or (2) Submit plans to the Division and/or MSHA for Slurry Cell #1 re-design and/or abandonment/reclamation, By 07/20/2007. Citation #10006 was modified on July 30, 2007 changing the abatement date to August 31, 2007.

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TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

OPERATION PLAN

SPOIL AND WASTE MATERIALS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 701.5, 784.19, 784.25, 817.71, 817.72, 817.73, 817.74, 817.81, 817.83, 817.84, 817.87, 817.89; R645-100-200, -301-210, -301-211, -301-212, -301-412, -301-512, -301-513, -301-514, -301-521, -301-526, -301-528, -301-535, -301-536, -301-542, -301-553, -301-746, -301-747.

Analysis:

Impounding Structures

The information submitted in the amendment changes the language to indicate the abandonment of Slurry Pond #1 and Slurry Pond #5. The permittee has made application with MSHA to abandon both slurry cells. A copy of this approval from MSHA needs to be part of the MRP.

Appendix V-16 was created to contain the information relative to the Slurry pond abandonment. The information in the appendix indicates that a detailed plan with cut and fill balances and contours will be submitted after the coal fines have been removed and prior to final reclamation.

Findings:

The information submitted meets the minimum requirements of the regulations.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The amendment should be approved pending the approval from MSHA for abandonment of Slurry ponds #1 & #5 and the receipt of clean copies.

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